

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No 1632—July 1, 1950

## The Legend Wins!

A MEMORIAL has just been erected in Holland to commemorate an event which never took place.

Most people know the story of the Dutch boy who, centuries ago in Haarlem, one day saw a leak in the wall of a dyke, inserted his finger to stop the flow of water, and remained there all night until help arrived.

Well, the Dutch people have always strongly repudiated the story as having no foundation in history; and although many versions have been told from time to time it would appear that it first saw the light in Mary Mapes Dodge's book *The Silver Skates*, published in America nearly eighty years ago. But for years visitors to the country have insisted on being shown "the exact spot where the incident took place." Now, in deference to the firmly-established legend, they have erected a bronze statue of a kneeling boy, his finger plugging the leak, on the Spaarndam Dyke, near Haarlem.

The inscription reads: *Dedicated to our Youth, to honour the boy who symbolises the perpetual struggle of Holland against the water.*

## VALET TO HIS HERO

A man who cherished many memories of Cecil Rhodes died recently in Johannesburg. His name was Charles Rickson and he was once valet to the great statesman—founder of Rhodesia.

It was in 1886 that Rickson left London for South Africa as Rhodes' steward, and later went to Groote Schuur, the lovely home which Rhodes built for himself in the shadow of Table Mountain. There he had the opportunity of meeting several men and women

who made South African history.

Dr Jameson and Rhodes were always talking politics. They would get up from the dinner-table and then talk about South Africa until long past midnight. But they would be up bright and early in the morning, and Rhodes would call for his horse and take a ride up Table Mountain. He liked to go alone—in a slouch hat, open-necked shirt, and white duck trousers.

"I never heard Rhodes sing," said Mr Rickson, "but sometimes when he was very happy he would whistle, and he was very fond of music. He had his own band at Groote Schuur made up of coloured men who worked on the estate under a retired British Army sergeant-major. Mr Rhodes was always kind and fair to the coloured people, and they would do almost anything for him."

Rutherford Harris, Rhodes's secretary, used to "loft up" and drive off in a smart trap with liveried footmen. Rhodes would follow him out a little later wearing his old clothes and heave himself into his Cape cart and trundle off. They got him to buy a motor-car in 1901, but he always preferred to ride in the old Cape cart.

"He may not have been quite the perfect gentleman Doctor Jim was; he didn't dress as well as his secretary; he didn't have the society spit and polish of his brother, Colonel Frank. But a very rough-and-ready fellow Rhodes was—I won't forget him."

Those were the last words of Mr Charles Rickson; and they are echoed in the hearts of every South African.

## THE ONE IN THE WINDOW

SHOP-GAZING is likely to become a much more responsible business if a New York shop's device comes into general use. By the use of a sound-recording tape on an easy-to-operate system, window-shoppers can order goods from outside the shop at any time of the day or night. If popularised, the system would give added value to window displays, and considerably more responsibility to the window-dresser.

## Deck-Chair Gardening

THE latest addition to American labour-saving devices is a radio-controlled lawn mower. All the owner need do is to sit in a deck-chair and operate a switch resting on his lap. Of course, it does mean having to keep awake while in the deck-chair; otherwise this invention makes everything in the garden lovely!

## CONFUSION IN CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE NATIONS

### DIFFERENT FOLK, DIFFERENT WAYS

How misunderstandings can arise when people of different countries meet was shown at a United Nations conference when the Soviet delegate said: "Gen-

tleman, gentlemen, let us not act in this matter like an elephant in a china shop."

When this remark was translated the Chinese delegate, who understood English, asked: "I should like to know just what China has to do with his objections."

"I said nothing whatever about China," retorted the Russian.

"I distinctly heard my country mentioned. I request an explanation," insisted the Chinese delegate.

This and similar incidents are described by Ina Telberg in the *Unesco Courier*. Misunderstandings can arise even through hospitality, and Ina Telberg describes how at a United Nations party given by the Americans the Russian guests stood stiffly aside while others helped themselves to food and drink. This was because in Russia it is rude for a guest to eat or drink anything unless repeatedly pressed by his hosts.

### Time For Lunch

At a UN meeting a British chairman caused bewilderment when he said, quite innocently: "Gentlemen, it is time for lunch—we must adjourn." He had taken for granted that all the world over people have meals at the same time of day. Some of the delegates, however, thought he was deliberately trying to break up the meeting before its work was finished, and there were murmurs of "insincerity" and even of "sabotage."

Ina Telberg makes the interesting suggestion that one reason why the speeches of the Russian delegate, Mr Vishinsky, sound so aggressive when translated is because there is an old tradition in Russia that in making a political speech one must be sarcastic.

## No Encore From Yehudi Menuhin

IN the Union House of Assembly not long ago there came a startling interruption. A member was in the middle of his speech and the House was listening closely when suddenly somebody called out "Bravo!" It was a voice clear and musical, and it came from the distinguished visitor's bay.

One hundred and fifty pairs of eyes looked up and saw a solitary figure in the gallery above them. It was Yehudi Menuhin. In his enthusiasm he had broken the rule insisting that "strangers" be seen and not heard.

The penalty for infringement of this rule is instant eviction. But on this occasion nothing happened. Mr Speaker smiled as he bent over his notes; the Prime Minister was obviously full of mirth; and the House rocked with appreciative laughter.



## THE GIRL WITH THE GLIDER

Model aircraft enthusiasts all over the country have been taking advantage of the summer weather to fly their craft, and many national and international competitions are being held. The lady in this picture is helping to launch her husband's glider.

## By Bottle to Antarctica

A BOTTLE containing Biblical texts in 19 languages has reached members of the Australian Antarctic expedition stationed at Macquarie Island, 1000-odd miles south of Hobart.

The bottle, probably thrown from a ship at sea, also contained a request to notify the Evangelistic Society, 2 Malt Street, Belfast, Ireland.



## America's Confidence in the Future

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has recently been travelling across the vast continent of America, making speeches to the crowds who welcomed him. The keynote of his speeches was the explanation of his foreign policy to those fellow citizens in the Middle West who are by tradition what are called isolationists.

Now, isolationism is an impossible way of life in the world of today, and it behoves us in this island to shun it too and try to understand as best we can the great role which America is now playing in world affairs.

Few of us can spare the time so necessary to have expert knowledge of American affairs. Yet despite its complications the American political picture displays a few broad facts. Because many, if not most, of the problems arising in international affairs today are shaped by Western Europe's relationship with the Soviet Union, many of America's problems are a reflection of the same question. When this is realised, many of that country's domestic developments become understandable.

The most important fact about America's policy is that this vast, strong and self-confident country

has always been naturally isolationist. Heeding the warning of its President, George Washington, the United States steered clear of European quarrels and fights; and continued to do so right up to 1917 and again between the two World Wars.

But the world has become smaller, as it were, since the days of Washington and in our own lifetime we have witnessed a powerful trend in American public life to abandon, for good and all, isolationism as the basis of the country's foreign policy.

### New Responsibilities

The Second World War and what has happened since it ended have reduced the influence of those Americans who thought that world affairs and world troubles were no concern of the United States.

The fuller understanding of America's responsibilities in recent years has, in the main, been due to the sharp political and economic conflict with Russia. Since 1945 Communist Russia has extended her power very considerably, and has developed at the same time a policy intensely hostile to the West. This has naturally caused the Americans to fear that the way of life followed by the United States (and most West European countries) might soon come to an end.

This belief has resulted not only in the eclipse of American isolationism as a policy; it has also been responsible for the dread of Communist influence inside the United States and for the development of a national (or, as the Americans call it, bi-partisan) foreign policy. The fear of Communism has led to extensive checks on the loyalty of Government employees and advisers. The desire to create a national policy in Europe and elsewhere has contributed to the formation of special Foreign Affairs committees on which both the Democrats (the Government Party) and the Republicans sit. The leading Republican expert on foreign affairs, Mr John Foster Dulles, has recently become adviser to Secretary of State Mr Dean Acheson.

But there is another feature of the American scene, only a few weeks old but worthy of note.

### To Win the Peace

This is the new confidence which the London Conference of the Atlantic Pact Powers has inspired. No longer does America gloomily expect a long struggle to win the peace. She has a firm conviction that she is now in a position to assure the economic recovery of our Continent through the operation of the Marshall Plan, and also to maintain its freedom through the support her own most modern arms can give to her European friends under the military aid pact.

These are the broad outlines of the American political picture. But, however great and confusing the din of the political battle, one thing stands supreme in American thinking: love of freedom.

## NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

### MORE FOOD FOR EUROPE

The Economic Co-operation Administration reports that if crop forecasts are correct this year will be the best since the war for Western Europe.

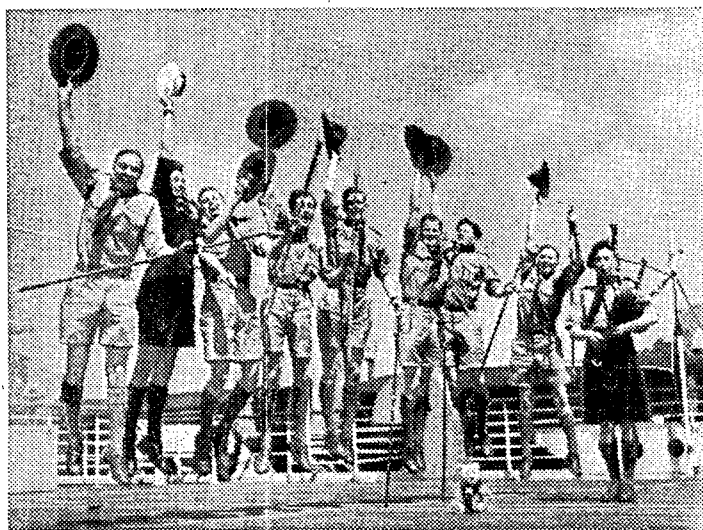
Appeals already out for church repairs exceed £1,000,000, said the Archbishop of Canterbury recently, and if similar appeals were added for the great churches and cathedrals on which repairs are absolutely necessary, the sum would be getting on for £2,000,000 or £3,000,000.

The Wankie Game Reserve in Southern Rhodesia now has nearly 50,000 head of game. Buffalo are increasing, there are some 2500 wildebeeste, and about 1000 elephants.

The St John and Red Cross hospital library service must now be paid for by civilian hospitals at the rate of about 1d a week for each occupied bed. Forces hospitals, Ministry of Pensions hospitals, and disabled ex-Service men and women in their own homes will continue to receive the free library facilities.

The winner of the first Midway Barge Race since 1938, the barge Sirdar, started 15 minutes late. The course was between Gillingham and Sheerness.

For the first time since it was founded in 1834, the Hertford Scholarship for Latin at Oxford has been awarded to a woman, Miss Margaret Eileen Hubbard, a graduate of the University of Adelaide, Australia.



### Jumping For Joy

The eight King's Scout and the Scout Commissioner who are representing Britain at the Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, give three rousing cheers before setting off from Southampton in the U S liner Washington.

Britain became the world's greatest exporter of textiles in 1949. Japan, India, and the United States took second, third, and fourth places.

### Champion Shepherdess

Two first prizes at the recent Romney Marsh sheep-shearing competitions were won by Elsie Humphrey, 24, the only woman among over fifty competitors.

The Public Schools Appointments Bureau has been re-organised with the aim of helping boys, from all types of school, who remain at school until they are about 18. Representatives of Industry and Commerce are now in the Bureau.

June was Education Month in Jamaica and children's book weeks were held throughout the island. In Stockholm an exhibition of children's story books was held in June by the British Council.

Aircraft recently dropped postcards from different heights over north-west London, to gain information about air eddies in the upper atmosphere. Finders of the postcards were asked to note on them where they were found and post them to the Meteorological Office.

### ON THE MOVE

About 470,000 people from Britain have emigrated to Commonwealth countries since the war, but a large number of people have also come here, so that the net total outflow to the Commonwealth since the war has been 260,000.

## Bit of Suffolk Down Under

AFTER a lifetime in East Anglia Mr and Mrs William Fowler, of Beccles, decided to make their home close to one of their sons who had gone out to New Zealand soon after the war ended, and they had a bungalow built in a pleasant little town called Stoke, close to Nelson, in South Island.

At Beccles Mr Fowler had been secretary of the Historical Society, and he decided to follow his old hobby in the young dominion. And what a thrill it was for him to discover that Stoke, now a town with 2000 inhabitants, had been named after one of Suffolk's old-world villages—Stoke-by-Nayland, in the Constable Country! The name had been bestowed by William Songer, who emigrated from Stoke-by-Nayland almost a century ago.

In a letter to a Beccles friend, Mr Fowler writes that he found that some 50 years ago the villagers of Stoke-by-Nayland presented one of the bells of their ancient church to the New Zealand Stoke, and it still rings every Sabbath.

"In those days," he continues, "there seemed to have been some correspondence between the two villages, but I understand that all efforts during the last few years to renew the interest and friendship have failed."

This is rather sad, but Mr Fowler hopes that he will be able to get the people of the Suffolk village to take a new interest in the New Zealand town. When the time comes for Stoke across the seas to celebrate its centenary it would be good to learn that it has once more forged a strong bond of friendship with its Suffolk namesake.

## FOXES OFF THEIR SCENT

AFTER a campaign lasting several years, Victoria's biggest turkey-breeder, Mr A. G. Zwar, of Broadford, 50 odd miles north of Melbourne, has at last stopped foxes getting away with his birds. And it was all done by hanging up little white bags of naphthalene, 30 yards apart, around the turkeys' mobile roosts in the paddocks.

This past season only one fox broke through the cordon, on a very windy night, whereas last year, despite dogs and night-watching, 304 birds were lost, and in other years as many as 84 a night disappeared. Mr Zwar believes the naphthalene throws the foxes off their scent and frightens them away.

## French Trade With New Zealand

A FRENCH trade mission has been visiting New Zealand to see how French factories can sell more machinery to pay for the shipments of wool which France needs every year.

France has been buying about £8,000,000 worth of New Zealand wool a year, but has sold only about £1,000,000 worth of goods to New Zealand.

New Zealand is a land of farms, but has to import all its heavy machinery. French manufacturers hope particularly that they can sell New Zealand machinery for generating electricity.

## SCOTLAND'S NEW PARK

THERE can be few grounds more delightful than the Craigtoun estate, near St Andrews, which has just been opened by Fife County Council as the first county park in Scotland.

It has 44 acres of lakes, waterfalls, and woodlands, as well as Dutch, Japanese, and Italian gardens.

The Dutch garden, on an island in one of the lakes, contains a miniature Dutch village. Nearby is a delicately-constructed Japanese water-garden with quaint little bridges, a water-gate, bamboos, and graceful feathery plants so typical of the Far East. From this little corner of Japan a charming walk leads to the Italian garden, with its ancient Wishing Well and dignified grove of cypresses and stately firs.

These features by no means exhaust the delights of this lovely park, and the people of Fife are fortunate in being able to enjoy them all.

## Goodbye to the Golden Fleece

THOSE of us who visit Agricultural Shows must sometimes be reminded of the quest of Jason and his Argonauts when we survey the rich golden fleece of the sheep in the show pen. This attractive golden hue was achieved in most cases with golden sheep dips. There is today, however, an objection to the use of such coloured dips, for the fleece has not the same commercial value as the untreated, off-white fleece. The reason is that coloured fleece does not dye so well in process of manufacture.

So the Royal Agricultural Society of England have decided that after this year sheep which have been treated with coloured dips or bloom powders will not be accepted for exhibition at the Royal Show, and so it seems that the golden fleece will soon be a thing of the past.

## DICTIONARY OF MEDICINE

A TASK of great importance to the study of Medicine has just been completed by experts of nine different countries; working on behalf of the World Health Organisation they have produced the world's first International Pharmacopoeia.

Derived from a Greek word meaning "a drug," this long word nowadays denotes a book containing descriptions and standards for drugs. Standard drugs and medicines in a country are of great value to doctors; when they order a drug in any part of the country they know exactly what to expect. Uniformity on an international scale is highly desirable.

It is expected that the new International Pharmacopoeia will be published this year in English and French, and a Spanish edition will follow later. Each member-state of WHO will then consider whether to bring its standards into line with the new.

## COFFEE FOR CATTLE

AN American veterinary doctor has discovered that early morning coffee is good for cattle on sea-voyages.

Dr Howard Mean, of Greensborough, North Carolina, sailed with 1300 cattle from the US to Haifa; he found that during the 21-day voyage cases of travel nerves among the cattle were cured by early morning coffee.

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS?

THE Assistant Commissioner of Taxes, Southern Rhodesia, has set out to tour the Union of South Africa to recruit Income Tax officials, the Colony having "suffered" from a shortage of them.

Owing to the very rapid increase in population, assessments of Income Tax have been in arrears, a state of affairs which, strange though it may seem, is not unknown in our own country.

## 1500 BOYS ON HOBBY-HORSES

THE 300th anniversary of a very delightful children's peace celebration occurred last week.

The Thirty Years' War had not long been ended when Octavio Piccolomini, one of the statesmen who had successfully concluded the peace negotiations, visited the city of Nuremburg, famous then, as now, for its toys; and the boys of the city decided to stage their own peace celebrations in honour of the event.

Nearly 1500 of them mounted their wooden hobby-horses, and on the morning of June 22, 1650, appeared before the house where Piccolomini was lodging to cheer the peace-maker. And that same year a special silver coin was struck; it showed a little hobby-horse rider, and each boy who had taken part in the demonstration was given one.

## HER BIG SURPRISE

THE girl in the picture has just opened the most wonderful present she ever received.

She is Sarah Waters, the grand-daughter of actress Nancy Price. Some time ago she was with her grandmother at the New Lindsey Theatre, London, when Queen Mary was there. The Queen spoke to Sarah, and they had quite a long talk about their mutual hobby, which is



collecting Victorian china and glass.

Recently a package arrived for Sarah, full of exquisite miniatures, tiny bottles and glasses, and other delightful little ornaments, and there was a letter from Marlborough House bearing the signature of Queen Mary.

## BEETLE BATTLE

MECHANISED warfare is being waged on the Colorado beetle in this country. Some 28,000 acres of potatoes in south-east England are being treated with preventive spray or dust this summer in a Ministry of Agriculture campaign lasting several weeks.

This area has been chosen for the first campaign because it includes most of the ports where stray beetles occasionally invade this country on vegetable cargoes.

## FOUR-IN-HANDS AT OXFORD

THE Royal Agricultural Society Show, which is to be held at Oxford from July 4 to 7, is a huge exhibition of everything to do with farming and the countryside.

When the Show was first held at Oxford, in 1839, there was no railway near, and most of the visitors—20,000 of them even in those days—went by some kind of horse-drawn vehicle to the seven-acre field which then adequately served the purpose. Mansfield College, a training-ground for the Christian ministry, now occupies the site.

Horse-drawn coaches will be seen again this year, but this time they will be part of the Show. There is a revival of interest in horses, and first prizes of £25 are to be offered in two competitions for four-in-hands driven from a coach carrying not fewer than six persons.

## CLEANING-UP AN ISLAND

ONE THOUSAND Norwegian boys and girls who had just completed their education in Oslo schools recently gave up a whole day to work voluntarily for the municipality.

They set sail early one morning for the island of Langoya, and on arrival cleared away tons of rubbish that had accumulated there. The school-leavers' own band—known as the Disharmonic Orchestra—rendered "music whilst they worked," and during the day the party consumed 3000 sausages provided by the city. In the evening the municipality arranged a supper, dancing, and a fireworks display.

The cost of the clearance would have been over £500 if the young people had not tackled the work.

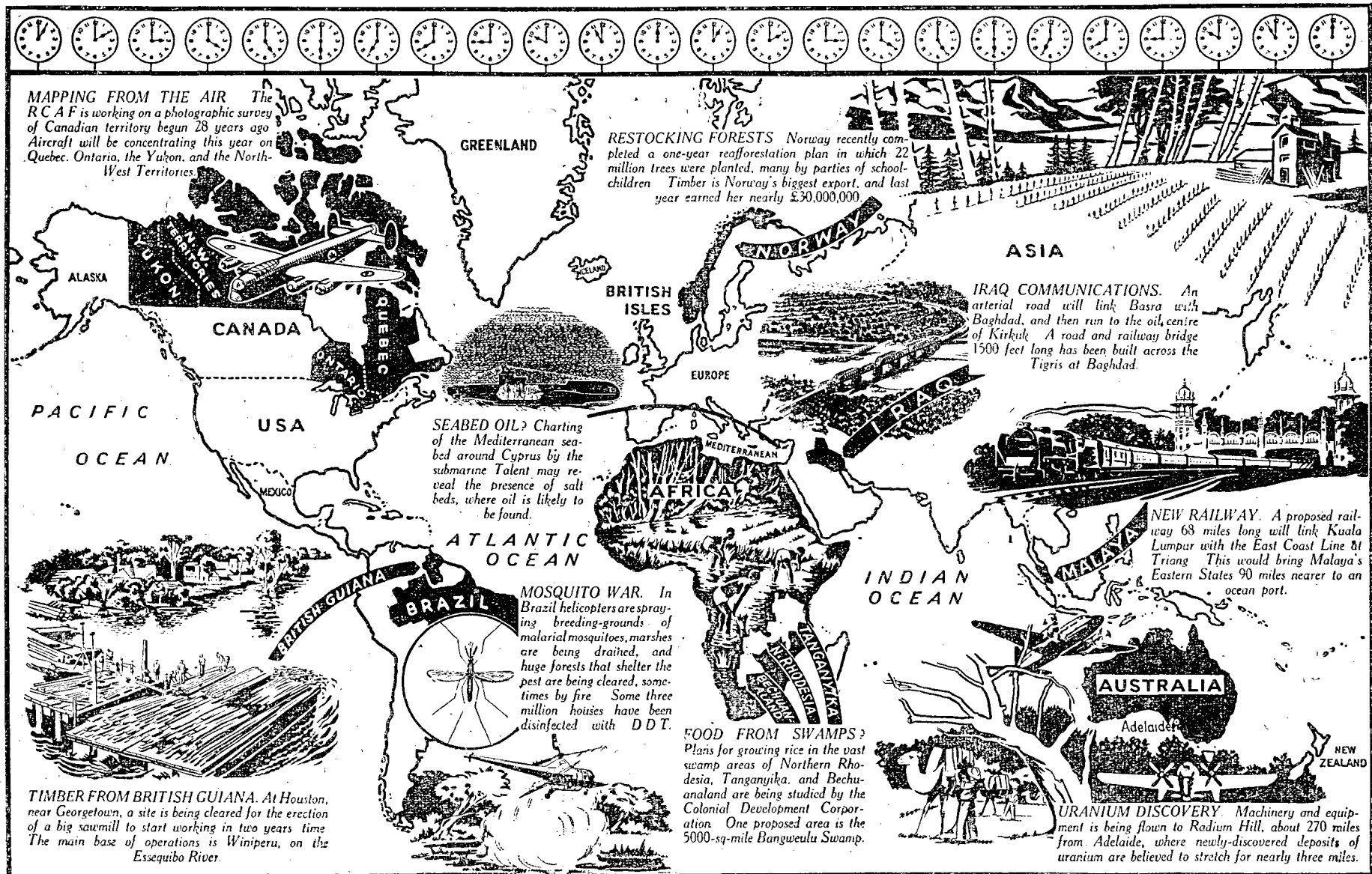
## BROTH FROM THE BRAZIER

WHEN 35 Carnarvon farmers arrived the other day at Duns, Berwickshire, on a tour of the Borders, they demanded Scotch broth at the local hotel. But the gas supplies were cut owing to repairs.

However, mine host resolved that they should have their wish. So he took a soup pan into the market square and placed it on the brazier used by the gas company's workmen.

The broth was served piping hot, and voted by the farmers to be all they had heard about it.

## The C N Picture-News and Time Map Showing Events all over the World





CRAVEN HILL, OUR ZOO CORRESPONDENT, WRITES OF . . .

## A Contrary Bear, Jackdaw Hoarders, & a Trespassing Duck

Few animals are so contrary as bears, and of the Zoo's colony of 28 quite the most contrary creature is two-year-old Winnie, the Syrian bear recently adopted by radio comedian Michael Howard. Winnie's principal "victims," it seems, are cameramen. Because she is such an amusing animal, several news-reel men have visited Winnie's enclosure—the circular pit built originally for the late-lamented giant panda—and have waited patiently for Winnie to run through her varied repertoire of tricks.

Perhaps because she is an "expert" (she lived for a time in the household of a Government official in Persia) Winnie seems to have almost human intelligence, however, and she uses her wits to confound the cameramen. Directly a movie-camera is set up on the compound wall, the cunning bear drops all her usual drolleries.

"One film company representative, trying to build up a news-reel picture of Winnie, has been visiting her enclosure regularly every day for a week. He has a very harassing time," one Zoo official told me. "While he is there—and he often stays there all through the dinner hour—Winnie goes completely 'wooden.' But directly he has left the place she somersaults, stands on her head, digs for 'treasure,' and goes through all the other tricks which so endear her to the public."

TALKING of "digging for treasure," that is exactly what some keepers are doing in another part of the Gardens—at the British Crows' Aviary, in fact, the home of two money-grubbing young jackdaws who recently have amassed a "fortune" probably far greater than that acquired by any other Zoo bird.

The money came to light when, the other day, keepers had to give the jackdaws' cage a thorough clean so that it could be repainted. Treasure then un-

earthed from odd corners included a large number of pennies and halfpennies, and more than 30 farthings!

"I knew the birds had been collecting coins for some time," Headkeeper Gregory told me. "They had indeed been giving people many laughs, because, on being given a coin, they would invariably put it down on top of a tree-stump, to gloat over it."

"When, however, the bird who had been given the coin went back to the cage-wires to collect another, his companion always stole the coin from the stump and hid it somewhere inside the back shelter. Both birds have been hiding money from each other in this way for many months past, and there was hardly a cranny which did not contain at least one coin. However, that is the end of their 'banking efforts' for the moment. Now the cage is being done up, and they will have to start collecting all over again."

VISITORS often see wild birds "gate-crashing" the Gardens, particularly ducks such as mallard, which fly in from the neighbouring park, and, finding plenty of titbits lying around, often return day after day. There is, however, one mallard who is unlikely to pay a return visit—just yet. She is a bird which made the mistake of alighting on the sea-lions' pond.

Here, floating about on the surface, she found a rich harvest of breadcrusts tossed into the enclosure by visitors but left quite untouched by the sea-lions, who, of course, are fish-eaters only. These, the hungry mallard eagerly snapped up.

There was a snag, however. For the sea-lions, finding they had a visitor, gave her a very hot time, and chased the bird mercilessly. Each time the mallard went into the water a sea-lion would charge at her like a torpedo!

Having escaped disaster by inches several times, the duck

Continued at foot of next column

ERIC GILLET on the new British film . . .

## "ODETTE," AN EPIC OF FRANCE

THE new Herbert Wilcox picture, *Odette*, received a signal honour when it was presented at the Plaza Cinema: the King and Queen attended the first performance. It has been given an A certificate, but I hope that a great many fathers and mothers will take their children to see *Odette*, if they are thirteen or over and not too sensitive; because it is a truthful reconstruction of a wonderful story of real-life heroism in the last war. Mr Wilcox has produced and directed the film with accuracy and nobility, and in the title part Miss Anna Neagle gives what is by far her best screen performance.

In 1942 the BBC broadcast an announcement asking those who had holiday photographs of the French coast to send them to the Admiralty. *Odette* Sansom, the mother of three small girls and French by birth, heard the announcement, but by mistake sent her snapshots to the War Office.

A few days later she was interviewed by Colonel Maurice Buckmaster, who was in charge of the liaison between the British and the French underground movement, and she was asked if she would like to go to France and "make things unpleasant" for the Germans.

Although she knew that it was most dangerous work, *Odette* consented. A small sailing boat dropped her on the Mediterranean shore, where she met her commanding officer, Captain Peter Churchill (Trevor Howard),

and soon afterwards she was sent to steal the harbour plans of Marseilles. She secured them and sent them off by ship to England.

Then Captain Churchill's headquarters at Cannes became known to the Gestapo, and he had to move with his helpers to Annecy, a town in the Alps near the Swiss frontier. Here the Germans captured both him and *Odette*. They were in prison for over two years, and although *Odette* suffered terrible

tortures nothing could make her give the Germans any information. She only repeated, "I have nothing to say."

At last the European war drew to an end, and *Odette* was released by the Americans. She met Captain Churchill in Colonel Buckmaster's office in London, and they were married.

That is a brief sketch of the theme of a remarkable film which shows what can be accomplished by one who is knowingly fighting for a just cause.

Colonel Buckmaster, Captain Churchill, and *Odette* all gave their advice and help to Mr Wilcox when the film was being made. Anna Neagle and Trevor Howard are first-rate, and so is Peter Ustinov as a French agent, and Marius Goring as a German colonel. Anna Neagle acts so well and unselfishly as *Odette* that she seems to be the woman herself.

*Odette* is a picture that will add lustre to the whole British film industry.



Anna Neagle as *Odette*, with Trevor Howard (right) as Peter Churchill, and Peter Ustinov as a French agent.

## 1000-Year-Old Timepiece

"WHAT is the hour, Aethelstan, or does your pocket sundial still deceive you, though it has been back to the maker?"

"Crack not silly jokes, Aelfred, in your envy at my sundial; when yonder cloud has passed I will read you the hour."

Some conversation like that may have passed between the proud owner of a Saxon pocket-sundial, the oldest now existing in England, and his covetous friend. This little sundial is quite a work of art and an exact copy of it by Mr Leslie Durbin, who made the *Sword of Stalingrad*, is on view at the Science Museum, South Kensington.

The original sundial was made in the 10th century, and was found under the cloister garth

of Canterbury Cathedral in 1939.

In shape it is something like a tablet of indiarubber we use at school, but is made of silver, with a gold chain at the top for holding it up when telling the time. Three inches long and a quarter of an inch thick, it has two working faces, each divided into three sections; each section represents a two-month period, the names of the months being at the top. On its edges are the words: *Salus Factori* (Health to the Maker) and *Pax Possessori* (Peace to the Owner).

At the top of each section is a hole into which the pin of the sundial is plugged. Aethelstan read it by putting the pin into the appropriate hole and holding up the sundial by its chain.

## COTTAGE OF THE BIRDS

OWNERS of a small cottage in Sussex are considering renaming their home *The Nest*, for apart from them it has been occupied by one cat, a pipistrelle bat, eight great tits, and fourteen blue tits.

The cat is, of course, monarch of all it surveys. The bat hangs upside down under the roof, diving out of cover as dusk descends to snap at flies.

It was late in April that the great tits began to build their home of moss and yards of hair inside a hole in the bedroom wall. There, ignoring the householder's efforts to keep them from his wall, they persevered, and now the chatter of their six young birds can also be heard inside the bedroom.

The blue tits, who took up residence behind the drawing-room chimney, have occupied the

garden for two years. Throughout the winter they visited the bird table; the weeks of mid-April found them inspecting a hole less than two inches wide under the roof. For minutes on end they could be heard hammering at the wood with their bills, as if trying to enlarge the hole.

Then lichen, hair, and moss were brought to the site, and the end of April saw the birth of twelve young birds all clamouring for food half the day long.

Then one fine morning the twelve young tits dropped from their nest and half fell, half flew into the wood. For some days they had been stretching their wings as if anxious to try their skill in flight. Now they have disappeared and the cottage seems strangely quiet.



Mrs Hippo and Her Baby at Home

A great favourite at the zoo in Auckland, New Zealand, is the baby hippopotamus who was born there recently. In this picture it looks as if his mother is trying to coax him into the water, but he is already very much at home there, and can swim and dive.



# The Champions Meet at Wimbledon

On Monday, June 26, the gates of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club were opened and the annual struggle for the world's most coveted Lawn Tennis laurels began. The C N Sportsman here discusses the prospects.

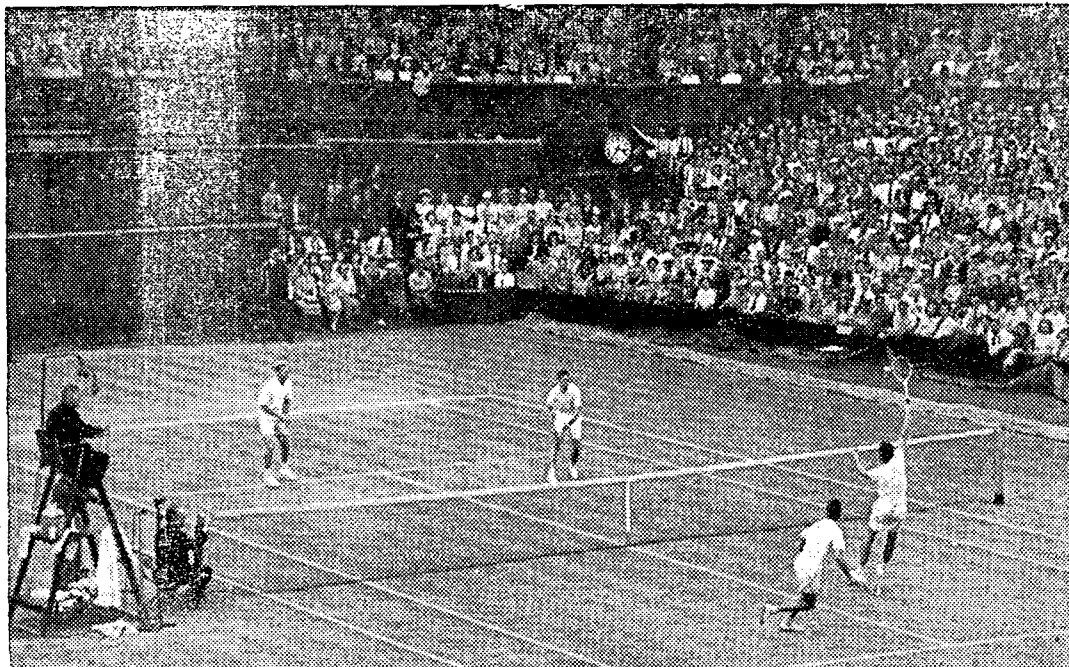
THE men's singles championship is one of the most open for many years. Although representatives from some 30 nations will be competing, the main challenge again appears to come from America and Australia, with the chances slightly in Australia's favour.

Despite his recent defeat in the French Championship, when he had an injured wrist, 22-year-old Frank Sedgman of Australia started favourite by a small margin. Last year Sedgman had two match points against the eventual winner, Ted

Schroeder, who is not competing this year, and since then he has been practising all the time—and improving, as he showed when winning the Australian Championship.

Should Sedgman fail it is likely that Billy Talbert, reputed to be the world's finest doubles player, will win the title on his first visit to Wimbledon. He is ranked number two in America, Schroeder being number one.

But, there are, of course, other men capable of winning the championship should Sedgman or Talbert not strike top form.

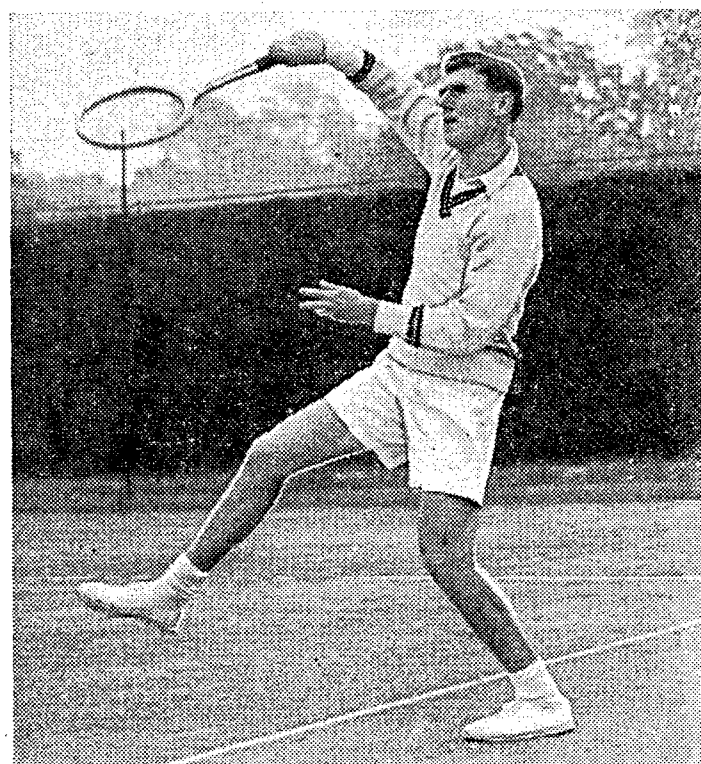


Eric Sturges of South Africa

Last year's finalist Drobny, self-exiled Czechoslovakian, is always a difficult man to beat; and the stylish South African, Eric Sturges, or Geoff Brown or Bromwich of Australia could make it an Empire victory. Others with excellent chances are Gardner Mulloy, the Miami lawyer, ranked number three in his own country, and Budge Patty, who beat Talbert in the French Championship and went on to win the title.

Among the interesting young newcomers to Wimbledon are Ken McGregor and Mervyn Rose of Australia, and 19-year-old Tony Trabert of America. They are not expected to win (although McGregor has victories over Drobny and Sidwell to his credit) but the experience will be invaluable for them, and spectators will find them attractive to watch. Our own John Horn, the Junior Champion, and Paddy Roberts will also profit from their meetings with the world's best players.

Britain's hopes of victory are slight. They again rest in Tony Mottram, who at times can produce brilliant tennis, and Geoff Paish, who put up such a fine fight against Cucelli in the Davis Cup. But with the strong contingent of Americans and Australians competing it seems that the honours must again go overseas.



22-year-old Frank Sedgman of Australia



Louise Brough, USA, holder of single's title for two years



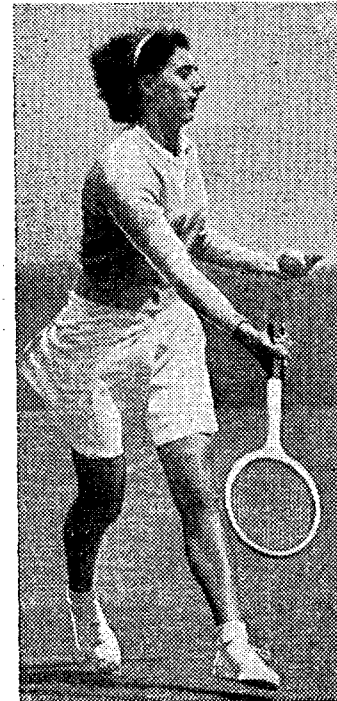
Left-handed Jaroslav Drobny, last year's runner-up

IN the ladies' singles, as in the doubles, the title is almost certain to go to America. Eight of her ten best players are competing; and the "Big Four"—Louise Brough, holder for two years, Doris Hart, winner of the French Championship, Mrs Du Pont, American champion for two years, and Pat Todd—are still too strong for their European rivals. There seems little likelihood of their not reaching the semi-finals, unless they strike a bad patch against a fellow American.

The American girls have, of course, been beaten, but mainly on hard courts; on the fast Wimbledon grass surface they are in a class of their own.

Of our girls Mrs Betty Hilton (Mrs Charles Harrison), Mrs Jean Walker-Smith, and the enigmatic Jean Quartier, are the most likely to be among the last eight.

But let us not forget 19-year-old Susan Partridge; however she may fare in her first Wimbledon there is little doubt that she has a great lawn tennis future.



Jean Quartier, one of Britain's hopes



Doris Hart, USA, winner of the French Championship





### At a School of All Nations

In New York a school is run for the children of UN delegates. It is known as the United Nations International School. Here Dr Ralph Bunche, a UN official, makes up an eightsome on a seesaw with some of the pupils.

## No Room For Error Here

THE boy who cannot see why his teacher should be fussy about a few decimal points in his sum would certainly cause much wasted effort if he were in charge of the three-mile-long Pennine Tunnel now being constructed on the main railway line between Manchester and Sheffield.

For absolute mathematical accuracy has enabled the engineers to begin their work at three different points. They have not only started pilot tunnels from both ends, but from the hill on top they have dug down 467 feet to a point where the tunnel is to come; and from the bottom of this shaft they have started boring outwards to meet the two tunnels that are being bored inwards towards them.

At the Woodhead end, in Cheshire, the pilot tunnel has been driven 3000 feet into the hills, and at the Dunford Bridge end, in Yorkshire, the pilot tunnel is now some 1800 feet long. So four tunnels must meet—one from Woodhead towards the middle, the second from the middle towards Woodhead, the third from the middle towards Dunford Bridge, and the fourth from Dunford Bridge towards the middle. All of these sections must meet exactly to the fraction of an inch!

A new American method is being used to widen the pilot tunnel at the Woodhead end into the finished tunnel. By this

new process the tunnel is widened and the soil drilled away is removed at the same time. As soon as the required width, 27 feet, is reached, the work of shoring and concreting the sides of the tunnel is carried out.

The new Pennine Tunnel is to replace the twin tunnels which were built 105 years ago, but which were always difficult to ventilate, rails and linings suffering from smoke and fumes. The railway itself, which carries much coal from the Yorkshire pits, is to be electrified with overhead equipment, and the whole work, tunnel and electrification, will cost about £8,800,000.

## FIGHTER FOR FREEDOM

THIS statue of Thomas Paine, the English Radical who supported the American Revolution, is to be unveiled on Independence Day, July 4, at Morristown, New Jersey, where George Washington had his headquarters.

Thomas Paine, the son of a Quaker, was born at Thetford, Norfolk, in 1737. In 1774 he went

## LIVING CHESS

TOWARDS the end of university terms there is usually a certain amount of relaxation.

The Warden of Merton College, Oxford, Mr Geoffrey Mure, and the Senior Fellow of the College, Professor H. W. Garrod, decided to play chess. But ordinary chess is hardly suitable for a summer evening, so they agreed to have living pieces. Members of the two college rowing crews were called in to take up positions on an open-air "board" on the Fellows' Lawn. Ladies were invited to be Queens and Pawns.

When dusk fell two floodlights were brought into use to enable the players to finish their game. And White (Professor Garrod) beat Black (the Warden).



The new statue of Tom Paine

to America, where a plea he wrote for the independence of the Colonies started the active movement for independence. He fought for the Americans and was given an official position.

On the scroll in front of his statue are inscribed his words, which were an inspiration to the Americans when things were going badly for them: *These are times that try men's souls.*

Paine returned to England in 1787, but was forced to flee the country after writing *The Rights of Man*. In France he was made an honorary citizen of the Republic, but Robespierre, suspecting he was an English spy, imprisoned him. Paine went back to America in 1802 and died there in 1808.

In religion Thomas Paine was a Deist—one who believes in God but not in any orthodox creed. He believed in a pure morality, founded on what he called natural religion. He once wrote that "all religions are in their nature mild and benign when not associated with political systems."

## The Editor's Table

### FORWARD LOOK

QUEEN JULIANA of the Netherlands has been giving the youth of the world some sound advice. Speaking to the University of Paris she warned the students there "to study the past but not to live in it," and to learn from experience how things should not be done as much as how to do them.

Those are words of sound commonsense. There are so many changes in the world today which seem doubtful and experimental that a look backward is bound to be attractive. But the only true course for youth is to cultivate the forward look, which means being ever ready for fresh adventures.

The Queen also urged her listeners "to be great in forgiving." Grudges and resentments are nurtured by the backward look. Forgiveness and a readiness to make a new start are part of the forward look. This is the spirit that all the world needs if it is to march forth to new horizons. Youth with its readiness to look forward must be in the forefront of that march.

### AGAINST RACE HATRED

HATRED between peoples, resulting simply from racial and religious differences, is one of the greatest evils in the world, and it is good news that a Unesco commission has proposed the taking of active steps to oppose it.

A resolution was presented by the French delegation and supported by Leopold Sedar Senghor, the Deputy of Senegal (West Africa) in the French National Assembly, recommending to Member States the use of all the means at their disposal, within the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to oppose the spreading by the press, films, and radio of hatred among peoples, races, and religions.

### THE HAPPY SCHOOL

WHAT makes a happy, successful school? Mr B. Rossi, 22 years a headmaster, gave these requirements when addressing parents on his retirement from Arnos Secondary Modern School, Southgate.

A happy school is one where a smile is a more natural greeting than a scowl. It should be a place of happy relations, where there is easy access and contacts between pupils and staff. And it should have a staff not only able and gifted in one or more subjects, but united as a team to carry out the ideas and ideals of the school.

A fourth requirement, we would add, is an inspiring headmaster—like Mr Rossi.

### JUST AN IDEA

As Montaigne wrote, *Want of goods may easily be cured, but the poverty of the mind is incurable.*

## Competition is Welcomed

AMERICAN scientists desire to have the strongest competition in creative research, it was said recently when an American proposal to establish a scientific research centre in Western Europe, to be followed by others, was accepted by Unesco.

"We want to preserve the international fellowship of Science," said the proposer, Professor Isidor I. Rabi, a Nobel prize winner. "Moreover, we want very much to help remove a sense of frustration which, very understandably, is growing among scientists of countries which do not have the material means that we have in the United States. These centres which Unesco is now to help to set up are one of the best ways of saving Western civilisation."

## TAKING THE SALUTE



Seated on the wall of his London home, Prince Charles watches the Guards march past.

## There's Ay Life For a Living Man

MR PANDIT NEHRU, Prime Minister of India, who is 61, thinks that the maximum age for a Cabinet Minister is 70. But that opinion may change.

Answering a question about young men in his Cabinet, Pandit Nehru replied: "When I was 26 I thought 30 quite out of date. I changed my mind when I became 30 and decided that 40 was the limit. At the moment the limit in my opinion is 70."

## Under the E

SOME people are anxious to see themselves in print. People of a certain type.

A VAN horse won a third place in a horse show. He expected to be in the van.

A BIG party has been held in an airliner 20,000 feet over the Atlantic. Everyone had a high tea.



WANDSWORTH Council says not lie on the library tables. If the can't turn over.

## GIRL FLIERS

FLYING scholarships entitling girls to be trained for a private pilot's licence have been awarded by the Women's Junior Air Corps to Miss L. F. Adkins of Finsbury, London, and Miss D. I. Blundell of Sale, Cheshire.

Miss Blundell is a clerk at the Manchester Airport, and she will carry out her training at the Lancashire Aero Club. Miss Adkins will train in London.

These scholarships were established in 1946, and by means of them 12 girls have already won their WJAC pilot's wings, and are thus qualified to fly planes.



## THINGS SAID

THOUGH taste is sure to alter from one period to another, true quality and elegance need never be allowed to deteriorate.  
*The Duchess of Kent*

SOMETHING like 10s a week out of the pay packet goes in a flutter on a horse or the dogs or the football pools. There are very good reasons why it would pay the individual and the nation if some of this money were used differently. I would recommend, for example, National Savings Certificates.

*Herbert Morrison, M.P.*

THE inevitable decision of the J. Arthur Rank Organisation to suspend making further special entertainment films for children is indeed unhappy news... a sad blow for the children and for the prestige of this country.

*Lady Allen of Hurtwood, in a letter to The Times*

## History Without Bias

HISTORY book reform is the chief aim of over 100 experts, including three from Britain, who are to attend a seminar at Brussels organised by Unesco to consider the improvement of school textbooks, especially history books. They will discuss the writing of them so that young people may grasp world history as the background against which their own nation's history has unfolded.

The delegates will also urge that history books should tell more about the constructive work of mankind. All too often do history books give a wearying succession of battles, assassinations, and intrigues, reminding us of Shakespeare's: "The evil that men do lives after them; The good is oft interred with their bones."

Another of the seminar's aims is to eliminate from history books the false jingo patriotism which, together with contemptuous references to "foreign" nations, fosters in young people the barbarous heritage of a warlike spirit.

## Editor's Table

PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO  
KNOW

If the boy who  
cracked a joke  
broke the silence



A GLUT of fish has hit the trawlers. Wonder who threw it?

BOOT and shoe operatives demand shorter hours. Of fifty minutes?

A GARDENER says he enjoys making a garden walk. So long as it does not walk away.

A MOTHER says she does not know how to make her jam last. She should make everything else first.

## FRESH START

WITHOUT a great deal of publicity a newcomer has arrived in Britain to live and work in our midst. He is the new German Consul-General, the nearest approach to a German Ambassador that we can have for the time being.

We welcome him as a symbol of a fresh start. He will be concerned mostly with trade and commerce, and in again building up friendly ties which merchants of Britain and Germany have had for generations. In doing so the new Consul will be laying new foundations, and he will be received here as a symbol of hopes yet to be fulfilled, but nevertheless very real hopes.

## More Petrol Means More Care

CRUSADERS of Road Safety may find their battle harder now that petrol is unrationed.

The volume of traffic is much higher, there are plenty of old cars about that lack mechanical efficiency, and there are drivers who are "rusty" from lack of practice.

Kerb drill must be stricter than ever, and all must spread the message of the Highway Code.

## CAPABILITY

HIGH praise was given to the Scouts and Guides by Lady Mountbatten recently. "I think that the Scouting and Guide movements are the most important in the world," she said.

"I have come into contact with Scouts and Guides of every colour, religion, race, and creed, and have often found the smallest and most insignificant-looking Scout or Guide doing jobs that the Prime Minister might not be able to do so well."

## Cricket in the West Indies

(According to Mr Jingle)

WARM! — red hot — scorching — glowing. Played a match once—single wicket—friend the colonel—Sir Thomas Blazo—who should get the greatest number of runs.—Won the toss—first innings—seven o'clock a m—six natives to look out—went in; kept in—heat intense—natives all fainted—taken away—fresh half-dozen ordered—fainted also—Blazo bowling—supported by two natives—fainted too—cleared away the colonel—wouldn't give in—faithful attendant—Quanko Samba—last man left—sun so hot, bat in blisters, ball scorched brown—five hundred and seventy runs—rather exhausted—Quanko mustered up last remaining strength—bowed me out—had a bath, and went out to dinner.

*Charles Dickens*

## WHERE TRIUMPH LIES

NOT in the clamour of the crowded street,  
NOT in the shouts and plaudits of the throng,  
But in ourselves are triumph and defeat.

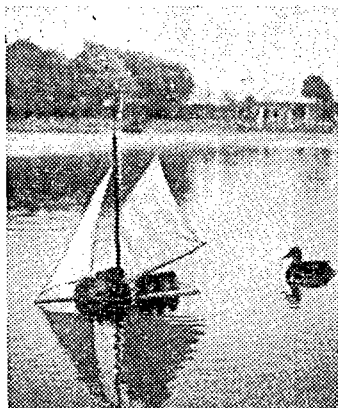
*H. W. Longfellow*

## ALL WINGS ON DECK

MODEL yachts with real live crews are rare indeed, but the one in the picture has a crew of young ducks—all volunteers.

The yacht-owner is a Liverpool schoolboy, and when he takes his yacht to the Walton Hall Park Model Yacht Club he finds, like other children there, a crew of ducklings eagerly waiting to pipe "all wings on deck."

As soon as the children launch their yachts on this lake, the ducklings swim after them, jump on board and sail across—a trick they have taught themselves. On the other side they slide off, wait for the yacht to be turned



round, and hop on for the return voyage.

Mother paddies along behind to see the family don't get up to mischief, though if someone quacked "duck overboard" there would be no need to throw out a lifebelt!

## Open Golf "Open"

NEXT Monday over 250 of the world's greatest golfers will set out in quest of the Open Championship. It will be played on the lovely course at Troon, in Ayrshire, swept by the winds from the Atlantic, and is one of the most open championships for years.

The last time the "Open" was held at Troon was in 1923, when Arthur Havers of Britain beat America's redoubtable Walter Hagen by one stroke at the end of the four gruelling rounds; and ten years were to pass before an Englishman was again to win.

Since the war, the "Open" has been won by Sam Snead (US), Fred Daly (Ireland), Henry Cotton (England), and, last year, by Bobby Locke (South Africa) after a tie with Harry Bradshaw of Ireland. Bobby Locke will be at Troon next week defending his title, and nobody will be surprised if he is successful.

Whatever the weather, thousands of golf enthusiasts will be at Troon to follow the players.

## RURAL MUSIC SCHOOLS

THE first Rural Music School was founded 21 years ago, in Hertfordshire.

There are now Rural Music Schools in several counties, with 200 teachers and 7000 students.

On November 18 a 21st Birthday Festival will be held at the Royal Albert Hall. Sir Adrian Boult will conduct a choral and orchestral concert of teachers, students, and friends of affiliated groups.

## Like Tiger or Like Dragon

JULY 2 marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Sir Robert Peel, statesman and founder of the British police force. "Peelers" was the name by which they were once known, and their nickname of "Bobbies," also commemorates him.

Robert Peel was born in 1788, the first son of a wealthy Lancashire cotton manufacturer who dedicated his day-old child to the service of his country. After four years at Harrow, Peel entered Christ Church, Oxford, where the famous Dean Cyril Jackson said to him: "Work like a tiger, or like a dragon, if dragons work more and harder than tigers." Which ever it was, tiger or dragon, that he took as example, Peel worked tremendously, with shining academic results. Nor did his zeal fall in later life. As Prime Minister he was to toil 16 hours a day, declaring afterwards that unless his nose had bled every night he could not have endured the strain of his labours.



Sir Robert Peel

## Great Achievements

Peel was in Parliament for a quarter of a century before he wrote his splendid page of history, and many notable things he did. He gave London its police and the country a sound system of metal coinage—an achievement of which Canning said that it was the greatest wonder he had witnessed in the political world. As Home Secretary he passed eight Acts in five years, consolidating the criminal law and repealing all or part of 250 other laws, making so great a change in the legal world that a famous lawyer used to say that he could almost think he had lived in two different countries.

In Ireland, Peel had been against the emancipation of Roman Catholics; but as the years went on, and the Irish crisis grew acute, Peel came to believe that, if freedom for Roman Catholics was a danger, civil strife was a greater danger still, and he gave way, himself introducing the bill of emancipation.

As a Tory, Peel had also been a Protectionist; but slowly it came to him that only Free Trade could save the country, and he began a series of budgets that took Parliament

by storm. Altogether, he reduced or abolished the taxes on thousands of articles.

But the greatest fight of his life came in 1846, on the question of the tax on imported corn. Peel said that the potato famine in Ireland together with the failure of the English corn harvest, compelled him to

press for the repeal of the Corn Laws in order to avert starvation.

His bill was carried against great opposition on June 25, 1846. The credit for this great victory he gave to a man who had lived for Free Trade and died without seeing it—Richard Cobden.

That very night the Government was defeated on an Irish bill, and four days later Peel resigned. In his last speech as Prime Minister he said:

*It may be that I shall leave a name sometimes remembered with expressions of good will in the abodes of those whose lot it is to labour and to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow, when they shall recruit their strength with abundant and untaxed food, the sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice.*

## His Last Speech

One more great speech he was to make in Parliament, on June 28, 1850. John Bright called it "that last, that beautiful, that most solemn speech, calling for peace among the nations and good will among men."

The next day he was thrown from his horse on Constitution Hill. Three days later he died from the injuries received.

The nation mourned for him as for a father, wrote the Queen, and it was true. He was the noblest statesman of his time—an upright, truth-loving selfless man. In him the love of his country was like the love of home, and the spirit of a man that sacrifices all for England's sake burned in his soul like a fire.



## OUR HOMELAND

Sulgrave Manor, Northants, home of George Washington's ancestors

## DANCING UP AND DOWN OUR LAND

SOME 30,000 men and women will dance the *Soldier's Joy* and the *Morpeth Rant* this summer—on village greens, in London parks, in the grounds of historic mansions, down the streets, and along waterfronts all over England.

They will be taking part in a big drive organised by the English Folk Dance Society to get the public to join in outdoor folk dancing, in readiness for displays in all parts of the country during next year's great Festival of Britain.

"Various groups and small units of the Society are arranging simple dances, in which anyone can join, under the leadership of a kind of Master of Ceremonies who would call out instructions," said Mr Douglas Kennedy, Director of the Society, in an interview.

"Traditional dances of all kinds will be performed by more skilled dancers, but this summer we are setting out to get people dancing in any open space available."

## College of Europe to Open Soon

A MOMENTOUS step will be taken next October when the first academic year of the College of Europe at Bruges, Belgium, opens. Forty young Europeans from nearly twenty countries will be enrolled, five places having been allocated to Great Britain. Lectures will be given in English or French, the official languages of the College.

In the first term the students will "map" Europe, by surveying its natural and human resources, its mutual limits and experiences. The second term will deal with the present-day situation and Europe's place among the continents. The last term will be devoted largely to the study of the constitutional form Europe might adopt.

## Steps to Sporting Fame



Surrey spin bowler, Jim Laker, is a player whom Yorkshire missed. His first coach was his aunt, Mrs Ellen Kahe, a schoolteacher.



Aunt Ellen used to take Jim to play cricket at Shipley, starting when he was four. Mrs Kane lived to see him established with the Bradford League club, Saltaire, and always travelled with him.



A batsman in those days, Jim was seen by Herbert Sutcliffe, former Yorkshire and England star, and he became a county colt. But the county let him go when he returned after the war.

## Jim Laker



Then Surrey signed him up, and he soon became a Test player. On May 31, playing for England v The Rest, he took 8 wickets for 2 runs at Bradford—the city where he was born 28 years ago.

## HAVE YOU WON A PRIZE?

### Result of Our June "A's and B's" Competition

THE FIRST PRIZE of a magnificent new Bicycle, offered in our June "A's and B's" Competition, has been awarded to ROBERT HART, "Fidra," Cyprus Avenue, Johnstone, Renfrewshire, whose entry was correct and the best-written according to age.

The six consolation prizes—Meccano Sets or Cameras, as chosen—have been awarded to the following: Christopher Tromans, Redruth; Marguerite Wilton, Broxbourne; Nésée Boles, Newarthill; Margaret Smith, Sandiacre; Shirley Boileau, Slough; Vivien Mathews, Ilford.

SOLUTION: (A's): Adze, aerial, airedale, angler, antler, anvil, apples, apron, arch, arm, armchair, arrow, artist, ass, auger, autogyro, awning, axle, axe. (B's): Bag, barn, barrel, barrow, basket, beard, beehive, bell, belt, bicycle, bird, birdcage, blazer, book, bottle, bow-tie, boy, bracelet, branch, bough, bridge, briefcase, bucket, bung, buttress, bush, brushes. (12 only of each asked for.)

Another competition with a bicycle, cameras, and Meccano sets as prizes will appear in next week's C.N. Why not try to win one of these splendid prizes? Make sure of getting your C.N. by placing an order with your news-agent now.

## Something Like a Playground!

STUDENTS from the Manchester University Settlement intend this summer to build a novel children's playground on part of the land at Mount Road Playing Fields.

Their plan for the playground consists of low buildings to represent a castle, a walled maze, small shops, a chute, and a tunnel. There will also be a see-saw, a small pond for sailing boats, and provision for games

## The Amazing Story of a Priceless Gem

THE Koh-i-Nur, the great and historic diamond that blazes in the Queen's crown, next week has a little centenary all its own; for it was on July 3, 1850, that this gem of gems was handed to Queen Victoria. Though not so big as the Cullinan diamond, it has a known history dating back to 1304, and tradition carries its story back into the age of fable.

The Koh-i-Nur has passed from hand to hand in the East, from conqueror to conqueror. It was one of the eyes adorning the famous Peacock Throne, and it figures in a scene that might have come straight from the Arabian Nights. In that scene, which took place in 1739, Nadir Shah, the Persian invader, learned that the Mogul Emperor whom he had conquered had concealed the diamond in his turban, and he insisted that as a token of reconciliation with his victim the two of them should exchange turbans. As the stone was revealed amid the turban folds the victor exclaimed in rapture, "Koh-i-Nur" (Mountain of Light) and by this name it has been known ever since.

After the Punjab had been surrendered to the British forces in 1849, the diamond was presented to Queen Victoria, in token of submission. But it now had to cross the sea, and a new chapter in the strange story opened.

Lord Lawrence, lieutenant-governor of the Punjab, had charge of it in an early stage of the transaction, and he lost it—lost the world's most famous jewel as simply as a bead from a child's necklace!

After weeks of vain searching the treasure was recovered by

accident. It turned up in an old cigar-box by the side of Lawrence's bed. Lord Dalhousie, Governor-General of India, to whom Lawrence handed it for conveyance to the coast at Bombay, risked no repetition of the misadventure. He concealed the gem in a belt within a belt, which he wore day and night next to his skin.

Finally, the Koh-i-Nur reached England, and was quietly presented to the Queen on July 3, just 100 years ago. In London the weight of the stone was reduced from 180 to 106 carats, the cutting occupying 38 days.

What is the diamond's value? Its history, of course, makes it precious beyond price; but when Ranjit Singh seized it from Shah Soojas in 1833 he asked its worth. The wife of the unhappy Sultan answered the question. Said she: "If a strong man were to throw four stones, one north, one south, one east, and one west, and the fifth stone up into the air, and if the space between them were to be filled with gold, all would not equal the value of the Koh-i-Nur."

### IMPARTIAL JUDGE

DON'T bite the judge at the show would seem to be an obvious rule for any competitors anywhere, but it was disregarded by a pig in a Berkshire agricultural show not long ago. This pig bit the judge, Mr T. H. Copas, who had to go to hospital to have stitches in the wound.

Then he hurried back to the show and awarded the second prize to the disrespectful pig. An impartial judge indeed!

## BARON MUNCHAUSEN—Picture Version of his Astonishing Adventures (First Instalment)

Karl Friedrich Hieronymus, the Baron von Munchausen was an hospitable gentleman who lived on his estate in Germany in the 18th century, and was fond

of telling his guests of his many adventures. They found them very amusing—but sometimes just a little hard to believe! However, they politely hid their mirth in case

the Baron, who took himself seriously, should suspect they doubted him. For he always endeavoured, he said, to get the story right in every detail.



One evening the Baron related to his guests his adventures as a young man. He said that he went on a voyage from Amsterdam to Ceylon. "The only circumstance which happened on our voyage worth telling," he continued, "was the wonderful effect of a storm which, in an island where we were anchored to take on board fresh water, had torn up by the roots a great number of trees of enormous bulk and height."



"The trees were carried by the wind so amazingly high that they appeared like the feathers of small birds floating in the air, for they were at least five miles above the Earth," the Baron went on, in a serious voice.



What was even more marvellous, he declared, the trees fell upright back into their respective holes and took root again, "except the largest which happened to have a man and his wife upon its branches when uprooted."



"They had been gathering cucumbers—in this part of the globe that useful vegetable grows on trees: the weight of this couple as the tree descended, over-balanced the trunk and brought it down horizontally."



This tree fell on the Chief of the Island and killed him, which, said the Baron, was actually a good thing, for he was a cruel tyrant. "In gratitude, the people chose the cucumber-gatherers for their governors."



The Baron, still "sticking to the facts," related his adventures in Ceylon. There he went out hunting and found himself in a dreadful fix. He was on a narrow ledge with a lake on one side and a deep precipice on the other. Suddenly an angry lion approached him, while behind him there appeared an enormous crocodile. His gun was loaded only with swan-shot, which was of no use against either monster.

How did the Baron escape from this desperate situation? See next week's instalment of this amusing story.



A complete short story of

Morgan of the Mounties



# THE THIEF IN THE KITCHEN

by Frank S. Pepper

CORPORAL TIM MORGAN of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police glanced impatiently at his wrist-watch.

"The kids are late today," he muttered. "I wonder what's keeping them."

Corporal Tim was sitting in his open-topped touring car outside the Hemlock Valley school. It was late in the afternoon. It was one of his regular duties to take home the children who lived long distances from the school.

A stout woman came out from a side door of the school building and approached the waiting Mountie. She was Mrs Haggerty, who did the cleaning and cooked the meals for those who lived too far away to go home at midday.

"School's late out today, Ma'am," remarked Tim with another glance at his watch.

"And it'll be later yet," promised Mrs Haggerty. "The little varmints are being kept in until one of them confesses."

Tim looked surprised.

"Confesses to what?" he asked. "Has there been trouble?"

"Trouble is the word," retorted Mrs Haggerty. "And if you were a real policeman, Corporal Tim, you'd do something about it."

"Do something about what?" asked Tim.

"About who steals my apple turnovers," rapped out Mrs Haggerty. "Every morning I bake apple turnovers. I lay them out on the table. I count them. But I can't be watching them all the time. Mark my words, two or three will have disappeared before the end of the morning and there won't be enough to go round. Those dratted boys. One of them is helping himself."

"It's partly your own fault, Mrs Haggerty. You're too good a cook. You shouldn't make the turnovers so tempting."

"Away with you, Corporal Tim. Flattering me won't help."

"Neither will sitting here all the afternoon," declared Tim, getting out of the car. "If we're to find the culprit we'll get nowhere just waiting for him to own up. We'll have to try something else."

Tim walked briskly into the schoolroom. There was complete silence. The schoolmistress sat watching her pupils, who remained at their desks in tense, resentful attitudes. Most of the boys had their eyes on a stout, overgrown lad nicknamed Beef. His plump face was scarlet, for he knew that everyone was watching him.

Tim approached the schoolmistress.

"Ma'am, will you please let school out? I have a job to do."

"No-one goes home until someone confesses," insisted the schoolmistress.

Tim lowered his voice to a whisper, so that the pupils couldn't hear him.

"I've got a better idea," he

suggested. "If you'll just let me handle this, I think Doc Watts could help us."

As he went on to explain his plan the severe expression of the schoolmistress slowly relaxed, and she began to smile a little.

"Very well," she agreed. "School dismissed."

THERE was none of the boisterous excitement that usually marked the end of the school day. The children filed out in a sullen silence which was broken only by a shrill yelp from Beef as a skinny boy known as The Weed gave him a venomous pinch.

"Cut that out!" rapped Tim. "Everyone into the car, and behave yourselves."

Usually Tim's passengers sang all the way home, but this evening there was uncomfortable silence until all at once yells and howls broke out in the back seat. Tim heard Beef shouting:

"I didn't do it. I didn't. Leave me be!"

"Yes, you did, so," shrilled The Weed.

Tim pulled up. A fierce fight had broken out in the back seat. Led by The Weed, everyone was punching and pummeling Beef.

"Stop it!" shouted Tim. "Who started this?"

"Just because I'm fat and have a big appetite everyone thinks that I stole the turnovers," cried Beef angrily.

"Sit quiet, everyone, or you'll all get out and walk," Tim warned.

BEUF lived a long way from the school, and was one of the last to be dropped from the car. As he climbed out Tim called him over.

"Beef, tell me the truth, did you take those turnovers?"

"No, sir," insisted Beef.

"I believe you," said Tim.

"That's all very well, Corporal Tim. But all the others think I did. How am I to prove that I didn't?" protested Beef unhappily.

"Leave that to me," smiled Tim. "If you're innocent you have nothing to worry about."

The following morning Tim drove up to the school with a passenger in his car. It was Doc Watts, the local Health Officer, part of whose job was to carry out periodical medical inspections at the school.

"You realise that this isn't just a routine inspection, Doc?" Tim asked as he stopped the car. "The kids mustn't suspect anything, but you know what we're looking for?"

"Sure. Go ahead," chuckled Doc.

TIM led the way into the school kitchen. Mrs Haggerty, hot and red-faced, looked up from her oven.

"Any more turnovers missing?" Tim asked.

"Four!" cried Mrs Haggerty in-

dignantly. "That boy Beef must have hollow legs or else where would he put—"

"Let us not accuse anyone until we have proof," Tim reminded her sharply. "Come along, Doc."

They went through into the schoolroom.

"Good-morning, Ma'am," said Tim. "Doctor Watts would like to make a medical check. May we have the boys up one at a time, please, stripped to the waist?"

Doc Watts opened his bag and took out his stethoscope. The boys formed a queue. Beef was the first to come forward.

The doctor sounded him with the stethoscope and uttered a non-committal grunt.

"Now let me see your tongue," he said.

The lad obeyed. The doctor examined his tongue.

"Thank you, son. That's all," he said.

As Beef went back to his seat, pulling on his shirt, Tim gave him a friendly slap on his plump shoulder, and grinned at him.

ONE by one the other boys came up, each to undergo the same brief examination. From time to time Doc Watts and Tim exchanged glances.

"All clean so far, and not many more to come," Doc whispered. "Maybe your plan isn't going to work after all."

The Weed stepped up, scowling.

"Open your mouth," said the doctor. "Let me see your tongue."

The Weed obeyed.

Tim suddenly stepped forward, and caught him by the arm.

"So it's you who have been stealing Mrs Haggerty's turnovers!" cried Tim.

"No!" protested The Weed. "Why, everybody knows that it's Beef, only he won't admit it. I haven't done anything."

"For that you're going to get extra punishment," Tim warned. "Don't make things worse for yourself. Look at the evidence."

Corporal Tim produced a mirror and held it up so that The Weed could see himself.

"I had Mrs Haggerty mix some blackberries with the apple in the turnovers this morning," Corporal Tim said. "Look at your tongue."

In dismay The Weed stared at his reflection in the mirror.

His tongue was a rich blue-black!

Another story of Morgan of the Mounties will appear soon.

## RED INDIANS AT SCHOOL

Down in the south-western states of the United States Red Indian nomads are going to school for the first time.

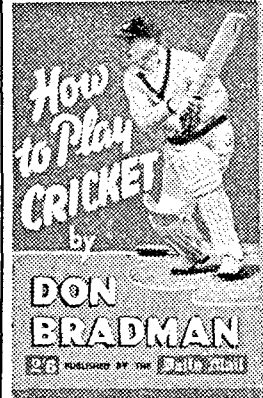
Over three thousand of the Navahos tribe, used to a wandering life across the deserts of New Mexico and Arizona, are being given elementary lessons in English. Some of them also have to be taught such simple actions as how to sit on a chair or lie on a bed, and particularly how to be punctual.

Most classes have a regular teacher who sets up his class in a tent and follows the wandering groups around. The only examinations held are those which aim at discovering whether the pace of instruction should be slowed down or accelerated.

These Red Indians love going to school, and discipline is easy. The only time one of them stays away is to get married!

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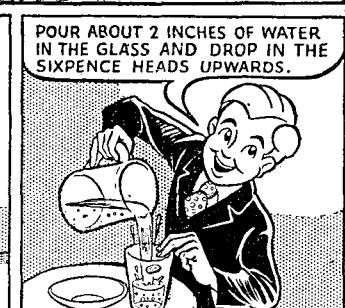
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## Surveyors in the Making

THERE is a grave lack of surveyors in Northern Rhodesia, and it is proving a serious handicap in the development of the country. New roads cannot be measured as fast as they are required, and, above all, land cannot be surveyed for the big afforestation and hydro-electric schemes that have been planned.

To meet the need, a school for surveyors has been started near Broken Hill, the aim being to train young natives in the elements of surveying and land measurement. Boys entering for the course must have passed at least standard six, and once admitted they study arithmetic, algebra, and trigonometry. The work is as practical as possible, and is done mostly in the open air.

The young Africans are proving adept pupils at the job, and

are already assured of employment when they have completed their studies. Some 200 boys are needed by the Government of Northern Rhodesia to go into the trackless bush and help European surveyors in dividing up the land.

Perhaps the most attractive part of their schooling is the term given to real practical work, when the boys set out "on safari" with their European teachers.

They load their kit on motor trucks and go off into the forest and veld for three months to learn the elements of surveying at first hand. They sleep and eat in the open, and have sing-songs round camp fires at night which enable them to forget for the moment the use of prismatic compasses, surveyor's chains, and theodolites.

## Railing-Trailer Trapped

TRAILING a hand along railings during a walk can be a pleasant accompaniment to a random train of thought—one might almost call it a form of doodling—but for a certain young lady of eight the process had a harsh result.

For in the railings along which she was tracing an imaginary line was a letter-box. In went her hand and then her arm, and she could not get them out; and what made it more awkward was that she was due soon to take part in a procession in Westminster Cathedral.

The police sent for her mother and advised this lady to obtain grease to free her daughter. Mother had to use a rationed pound of butter before she was able to release the young lady's arm.

## PREFAB TUNNEL

A CONSIDERABLE feat of engineering has been completed at New Washburn, Texas, where four 375-foot-long tube sections of a steel and concrete tunnel, built 400 miles away, were sunk into position across the bed of the Houston Ship Canal.

These four great tubes were constructed at a shipbuilding yard at Pascagoula, Mississippi, and, with watertight bulkheads fitted at both ends, were launched down slipways for the 400-mile voyage.

When they reached New Washburn the four sections were manoeuvred into position across the canal. The next step was to sink the sections gradually by pouring concrete into them—a delicate job calling for the most precise calculations, for the four sections had to fit exactly in the canal bed 85 feet below the surface.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### Mr Portly's Picnic

ON fine, warm afternoons, Mummie used to put Colin out on the lawn in his playpen. She put a rug on the grass first, and Mr Portly used to get into the play-pen and under the corner of the rug, and play Hunt-the-Toe with Colin.

Sometimes Colin would stuff his ball and his rattle under the rug for Mr Portly to hunt.

Before Mr Portly could start hunting for it, however, Ann and Christopher came back and, seeing his plate empty, thought he had finished already. Down they sat. And on the very piece of rug under which the fish was hidden!

"Bother!" cried Mr Portly. "Now I'll have to go for a walk till they stop sitting on my tea and go in."



On one of these afternoons Ann and Christopher asked Mummie if they could have a picnic tea with Colin in his play-pen, and Mummie said "Yes." And when she brought out their tea there was a bowl of fish for Mr Portly, too.

But just as they were beginning tea they heard Auntie-from-the-Farm's car outside the house, and Christopher and Ann rushed off to say How do you do.

Now, Ann had put Mr Portly's plate of fish down beside Colin. And suddenly Colin began grabbing up fistfuls of the fish and stuffing it under the rug.

So he did. He met Tinkle and Snowball on the walls and told them about it. And later, when he heard Mummie fetching the children indoors, they went back with him, too, to help, they said. But, of course, they ate all they found, and Mr Portly did not have quite the large meal he had been looking forward to!

So when Ann came out to call Mr Portly, she saw not one, but three cats scuffling in the play-pen.

"Look, Mummie!" she called, laughing. "Mr Portly's having a picnic of his own now!"

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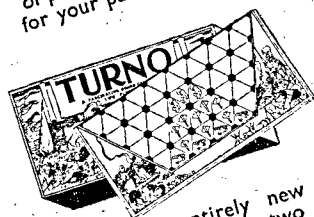
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## Giant Telescope For Australia

AMERICAN astronomers are to set up one of the biggest telescopes in the world at Mount Stromolo, eight miles from Canberra.

Last year the Australian Government invited the Universities of Yale and Columbia (U.S.A.), Upsala (Sweden), and Leyden (Holland) to establish observatories at Mount Stromolo; and all but Leyden have accepted.

The big American telescope will be placed in a joint observatory to be established by Yale and Columbia, and Sweden will send modern equipment. Each overseas body is to be given a plot of land.

Yale, Columbia, and Leyden have observatories at Johannesburg, but smoke haze from heavy industries has hampered their work, and Mount Stromolo, already Australia's most important centre of astronomical research, will soon displace the South African city as the biggest research centre in the Southern Hemisphere.

## LAND FLOWING WITH MILK

PERHAPS New Zealand is not quite "a land flowing with milk and honey," but its great dairying district, the Waikato Valley, around the city of Hamilton, certainly produces a great deal of milk.

When New Zealand's Prime Minister, Mr S. G. Holland, visited Hamilton recently, he complimented the farmers of the Waikato Valley. In the last 12 months they had produced 76,000 tons of butter, 15,000 tons of cheese, 10,000 tons of dried milk, and 19,000 tons of milk powder. Their farms also produced 55,000 tons of meat.

Nearly all this food from the Waikato Valley is sent to Britain in British ships. Yet less than 90 years ago there was not one cow in the Waikato Valley!

## Anglo-American Agriculture

THE Garden Club at Hillsborough, California, has for the past two years made a gift to the English-speaking Union of a Fellowship at the University of California. This has entitled two British women graduate students to spend a year studying agriculture in America.

As a token of gratitude it has been decided to offer a reciprocal Fellowship for an American woman graduate student to spend a year studying in Britain, and a Joint Committee has been formed to raise the funds.

## HOLIDAY PIONEER

A TABLET has been placed on a rock 700 feet up on Conway Mountain in memory of Thomas Arthur Leonard, founder of the Co-operative Holiday Association and the Holiday Fellowship movement, who died at Conway in 1948. In June 1891, Mr Leonard, then Minister of Dockray Street Congregational Church, Colne, invited members of his Bible class to join him on holiday in the Lake District instead of "drifting" to seaside resorts. This led to the formation of the Co-operative Holiday Association in 1897, and in 1913 to the Holiday Fellowship.

## ALL CABLES TO P K

THE other day, through submarine cables that girdle the Earth, messages poured into the Porthcurno offices of Cable and Wireless, for every station in its world-wide network sent greetings to the students of the re-opened Porthcurno training school.

The Porthcurno station is the receiving end for Britain of the whole of the submarine cable system of the organisation. Ten cables, each costing £1 a mile, stretch from the station across the sandy beach in a little inlet in the Cornish cliffs, near Land's End, and, entering the Atlantic Ocean, spread all over the world in a 155,000-mile network of communications.

The original Porthcurno training school, the first in the country, was opened in 1870 and closed in 1919. It was here that the pioneer cable operators received their training. Now they are stationed in many parts of the world, linked not only by the copper wire that spans the mighty oceans but also by the initials P.K., which for all cable men stand for Porthcurno.

## Odyssey in a Junk

FOUR adventurous Naval men and a Chinese cook are on a voyage from Singapore to England in a home-made junk.

The vessel was built by four native carpenters to the design of its skipper, Commander R. A. Kilroy, R.N., who installed a four-legged mast. Otherwise, she resembles an ordinary Chinese junk with high stern and low bow. She is called the *Boleh*, which in Malay means "can do."

Commander Kilroy's companions are two naval officers on leave, a former charwoman of shipwrights, and Chang, the assistant cook.

Chang and the chief cook, Lieut-Commander J. J. S. Rusher, have a unique "galley," and are probably the first cooks to work at sea sitting on a motor-bike saddle. The cook sits on this amidsthips with his feet on rests and surrounded by his culinary equipment—stove, oven, cutlery, china, and so on.

These adventurers in the *Boleh* expect to reach England in September.

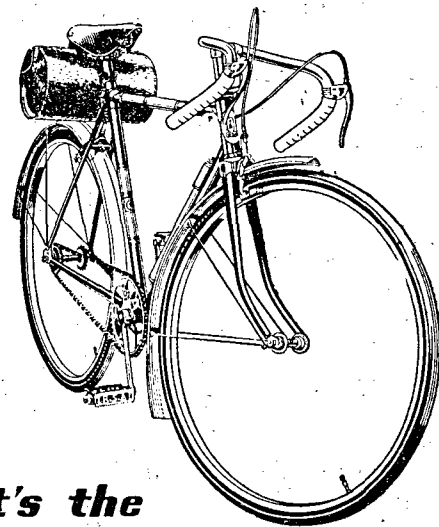
## "Improving" Van Dyck

PRESUMABLY because he thought that the larger a picture is, the more money it should fetch, some 18th-century forger added several inches to Van Dyck's magnificent portrait of Cornelius van der Geest. His trick was recently revealed by X-rays when the picture, which belongs to the National Gallery, was cleaned.

Van Dyck, early in the 17th century, painted the head of van der Geest on a wooden panel measuring about 15 inches by 13. The forger decided to give in-artistic purchasers more for their money, and ingeniously fitted the original panel into a larger one measuring 32½ inches by 26½ inches, then proceeding to paint a "body" below the head.

Thus enlarged, the picture was sold in 1796, and was acquired by the National Gallery in 1824, no one detecting the forged addition until now.

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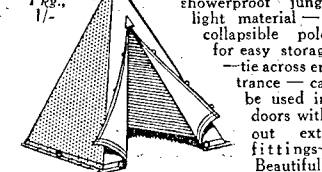
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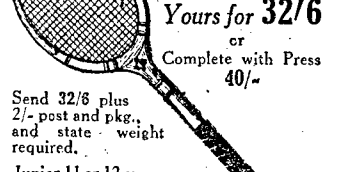
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# THE BRAN TUB

## A Long Wait

BROTHER BILL had left his watch upstairs and he asked Peter to hop up and get it. "But it will run down itself if you wait long enough," replied Peter.

## Dean Swift's Riddle

WE are little airy creatures, All of different voice and features; One of us in glass is set, One of us you'll find in jet; T'other you may see in tin, And the fourth a box within; If the fifth you should pursue, It can never fly from you.

Answer next week

## Countryside Flowers

YELLOW BEDSTRAW grows in dry pastures and on banks. The dense clusters of tiny flowers grow on long, weak stems which are jointed. They sprawl everywhere, forming a tangled carpet of yellow blossoms.

Each flower has four petals and four stamens. The stamens are borne on very short stalks. The narrow, grass-like leaves grow in rings, eight around each stem.

At one time the flowers were used in cheese-making; in consequence the plant is often called "Cheese Rennet."

## Weights and Measures

CAN you add letters to the abbreviations here (a letter for each dot) to make words with the meanings given?

- . oz. —A light sleep.
- . lb. —A joint of the body.
- ... pt.—Ready.
- gall. —An old ship.
- . in. —Last.
- ... ft. —Cunning.

Answer next week

## Why Grumble

FUMED a peppery colonel named Smee, "Hi, waiter! There's flies in my tea."

Said the waiter, "Dear, sir, Do not make such a stir, There is no extra charge, they're quite free."

# Jacko in a Sack-Race



JACKO and Baby had been across the river to collect some potatoes, and they were on their way back when they saw the ferry-boat waiting. As Jacko broke into a run the sack broke into a hole, and the potatoes began dropping out. What a hullabaloo! The ferry passengers were calling them to hurry; the captain was tooting his whistle; Jacko was shouting to the ferry to stop; and Baby was shouting to Jacko to stop. And after all, instead of catching the ferry, they had to stay behind and catch the potatoes.

## Many Tongues

SOME years ago at a Moscow conference attended by scholars of many nations, Professor G. Barger of Edinburgh began his address by thanking the president in English.

Then he continued in German, and next in French. After a few sentences in Italian, he excused himself in Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish, for imperfect knowledge of those languages.

His further remarks were in Dutch, and he ended his speech in Spanish except for a few final words in Russian.

## RODDY



"Is that what they call a 'hat trick', Daddie?"

## Farmer Gray Explains

Weasels Have Their Uses. "There's a dead rabbit by the hedge," said Ann sorrowfully.

"I expect a weasel or a stoat killed it," observed Don.

"Surely tiny creatures like weasels can't kill rabbits," protested Ann.

"They can," insisted Don. "Weasels are bloodthirsty little rascals. They even climb bushes and trees to rob birds' nests."

"You're teasing me," Ann complained.

"Don is right, Ann," Farmer Gray assured her. "Weasels climb quite well and often steal eggs or fledglings from a nest. Most gamekeepers detest weasels and shoot them when possible. Despite this, weasels are very useful; they kill large numbers of rats, mice, and field-voles, all of which are pests."

## Riddle-My-Name

My first is in summer and spring;

My second's in wash, not in wring;

My third is in apple and pear;

My fourth is in tiger, not bear;

My fifth is in land, not in ground;

My sixth and last letter is found In fairy, but isn't in elf;

A name that she starts by herself!

Answer next week

## A Mistaken Idea

THEY were discussing two friends who had quarrelled.

"But what a paltry thing on which to differ," said Bill.

"Yes," agreed Jack. "They seem to think that the less they quarrel about the better."

## Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars and Saturn are in the south-west. In the morning Venus is in the east and Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon at 9.30 on Wednesday evening, June 28.



## Unfriendly!

I HEARD this riddle yesterday: When does a chair dislike you? Say!

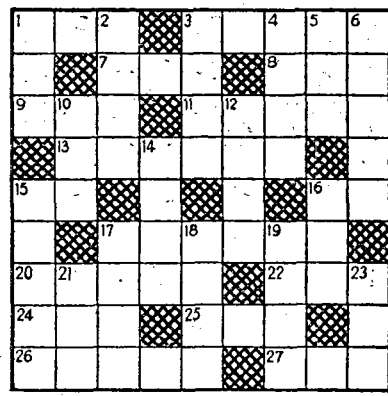
Tis when—though this is hard for you—

It cannot bear you, that is true!

## Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A seed-vessel. 3 An apartment for the reception of company. 7 Part of circumference of a circle. 8 Reverential fear. 9 Fruit of a tree. 11 To suppose. 13 An operational area in wartime. 15 You and I. 16 A Roman copper coin. 17 Mouth of a volcano. 20 "Leaf" of a fern. 22 A welcome beverage. 24 An age. 25 A collection of captive wild animals. 26 To thread a rope through a ring or block. 27 To incline the head.

Reading Down. 1 Cooking utensil. 2 Fruit of a palm. 3 A native of North Britain. 4 Wild beast's resting-place. 5 To possess. 6 Wants. 10. To employ. 12 Writer of verse. 14 Grain. 15 Small thin biscuit. 16 Unit of French square measure. 17 A fruit of fir or pine. 18 An axe-like tool. 19 Famous public school. 21 A kind of deer. 23 Assist. Answer next week



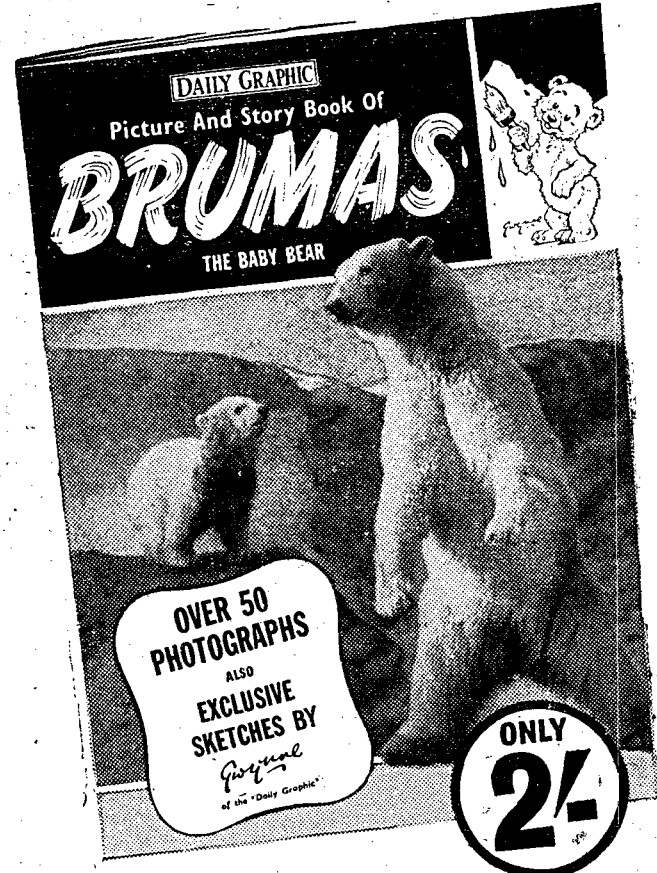
## Proof?

BLACK: Why are you so certain that tall people are always lazy?

WHITE: Because they are longest in bed.

## Last Week's Answers

June Halves: Harvey, Wither, Barham, Rubens, Arnold, Wesley. Michael and King Willow: 6, 12, 24. Riddle-My-Name: Wendy Darling (in Peter Pan). Find the Name: Hong Kong (husk, Ontario, noun, Grieg).



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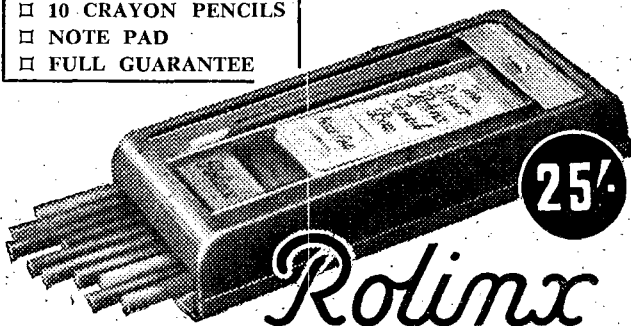
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